

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Determination of the Validity of a Petition for Initiated Legislation Entitled:

“An Act To Require Voter Approval of Certain Borrowing by Government-controlled Entities and Utilities and To Provide Voters More Information Regarding that Borrowing”

1. On December 27, 2022, 28,238 petitions containing 93,837 signatures were submitted to the Secretary of State pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 on behalf of the above-entitled initiated legislation.
2. Following a review of these 28,238 petitions I find the following signatures to be invalid for the following reasons:
 - A. 12,548 signatures are invalid because they were not certified by the registrar as belonging to a registered voter in that municipality. (REG)
 - B. 5,773 signatures are invalid because they are duplicates of signatures already counted. (DUP)
 - C. 2,863 signatures are invalid because the notary public administering the circulator’s oath was not eligible to administer the oath under Title 21-A, section 903-E, and Title 4, section 954-A, because that person had previously provided nonnotarial services to the initiative campaign by serving as a circulator for the petition. (INOT)
 - D. 1,431 signatures are invalid because the voter’s signature was dated more than a year prior to the date that the petition was filed in the office of the Secretary of State. (FILED)
 - E. 1,404 signatures are invalid because they were dated after the date that the circulator’s oath was completed in the presence of the notary or the voter’s signature was not dated and it could not be determined that the voter signed the petition before the circulator took the oath. (DATE)
 - F. 368 signatures are invalid because the voter’s signature was crossed out on the petition form. (WD)
 - G. 300 signatures are invalid because of material alterations to the petition. (ALT)
 - H. 197 signatures are invalid because the voter failed to provide a signature. (SIG)
 - I. 100 signatures are invalid because the registered voter’s signature was made by another. (ANO)
 - J. 28 signatures are invalid because the circulator did not file a circulator’s affidavit at the time the petitions were filed with the Secretary of State or the affidavit was not properly completed. (AFF)

K. 16 signatures are invalid because the circulator's oath was not complete or not administered properly. (OATH)

L. 2 signatures are invalid because the certification of the registrar was not completed. (CERT)

3. For the reasons set forth above, on the 28,238 petition forms filed with the Secretary of State, I find that 25,030 signatures are invalid and 68,807 signatures are valid. The number of signatures required to determine the petition to be valid is 67,682. Because the number of valid signatures exceeds the required number by 1,125 signatures, I find the petition to be valid.

Dated: January 26, 2023



Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State